



Holy Name Cathedral Now Has A Little Satellite

With more and more people moving into Streeterville and lots more expected as major developments are completed, Holy Name Cathedral has decided it has to expand. And so it has opened a satellite chapel in the south side of Streeterville.

The Twelve Pillar Chapel is located in, of all places, a former game room in the lower level of River East Plaza, 435 E. Illinois St.

"The southeast side of our parish is growing so rapidly, and it's important that we have a presence there," said the Rev. Bob McLaughlin, Holy Name's pastor. "We tried to do this earlier, but we couldn't find a space that would be available to us every Sunday," he continued.

Developer Dan McLean's River East project will bring at least 3,000 new residents into Streeterville. He agreed to let the parish use a 4,230 square foot space in his property. "A church building is nice," Rev. McLaughlin commented, "but what's really at the heart of it all is not buildings but people."

Mass is held every Sunday at 10 AM in the small chapel with its simple altar composed of a table covered with a purple cloth. Attendance has increased every Sunday with about 80 attending when Cardinal George held mass. The same priests found in the cathedral will rotate in the satellite chapel.

The Twelve Pillar Chapel has company on Sunday mornings when religion is in the air. The nearby restaurant, Dick's Last Resort, holds a gospel brunch every Sunday morning from 10 AM to 3 PM. It's supposedly great fun with gospel music ringing through the air along with the aroma of bacon and eggs!

Get set! Navy Pier's Tall Ship Festival, first held in 1998, will repeat this year from August 31 - September 5 when eight to ten ships from the U.S. and around the world will visit Chicago. The 1998 record crowd of 500,000 is expected to be surpassed.



SOAR is a grassroots, non-profit association dedicated to representing the concerns and visions of the residents of Streeterville.

Call SOAR at 440-9325 and *make a difference in your neighborhood!*

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President's Message



I would like to thank those of you who responded to my letter on the Northwestern Hospital project to build a temporary bridge from the V.A. Hospital to Feinberg Pavilion. Your responses resulted in an exact split pro and con. We have since met with Northwestern, Alderman Natarus and the City Department of Planning and Development. We also contacted some outside civil engineers.

The information we compiled has given us a better understanding of why bridges are needed and tunnels are not really feasible. Although cost and construction time are considerations, the route tunnels would have to take under the sewers on Fairbanks would increase the length of time it takes to get patients from various points to the intensive care units and operating rooms in Feinberg Pavilion. Since patient care is on the top of everyone's priority list, we understand this point.

During our several meetings we discussed our concerns for the number of bridge connections in the Northwestern Hospital and Northwestern University sites. We have always worked well with NMH and NU to resolve any issues that affect our residents and have respected the cooperation they have given our representatives. In this case, we feel the process was valuable for this as well as future issues.

In a letter written to Ralph Weber, Vice President of Planning & Development for Northwestern Hospital, after our last meeting, I stated that we should like to reiterate our understanding of NMH's commitment to the following:

1. The temporary bridge from the V.A. to Feinberg will be removed once the new NU Research Center and the Women's Hospital are completed.
2. The four existing bridges (two from Passavant to Olson and two from Olson to Wesley) will be removed within the next year.
3. Future bridges will bring the total number to a maximum of seven. This will include a new one from the NU Research Center to Olson and one or two from the new Women's Hospital to Olson,
4. While we appreciate and value NMH's ongoing sensitivity and response to neighborhood issues, we ask for some commitment from you to create small, scattered green spaces on campus to relieve the severe concrete make-up of the area.
5. Finally, a definitive commitment/contribution from the Hospital for improvement of Lake Shore Park.

We hope we can continue to work with Northwestern and others who plan on building in the Streeterville area to achieve the most desirable environment possible.

The Streeterville Organization of Active Residents is a non-profit, non-political volunteer group founded in 1975. SOAR's mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of life and protect the investment of residents of Streeterville.

SOAR
215 East Chicago Avenue
Suite 2407
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Telephone 440.9325
Fax 440.9328

Officers

Rosalind Hecim, President
Paul Ligon, Vice President
Scott Heiman, Treasurer
Marj Abrams, Secretary

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4 New Members Join Soar Board

With the election of four new members, the SOAR board of directors is now complete. (See box on page two for listing of complete board and officers.)

The four are Carol DeWitt, 880 N. Lake Shore Drive; Rosalie Harris, 680 N. Lake Shore Drive; Don Powell, 860 N. Lake Shore Drive; and Veronica Sepin, 175 E. Delaware Place.



Carol DeWitt moved to Streeterville from Hinsdale four years ago after teaching in Elmhurst for 25 years. She was graduated from Hope College in Holland MI and received her Master's degree from Concordia in River Forest. After moving to Chicago, she immediately got involved in community work and almost as quickly joined SOAR where she also joined the garden committee and soon became its co-chair where, by working and helping to install the garden in Lake Shore Park, she got her "dirt fix" acquired during a lifetime of gardening. She is on the board of the Women's Association of the Chicago Symphony and is active as a volunteer in many of the

orchestra's activities, and she says that her three and one-half grandchildren "are the joy of my life." She currently works part-time for several Destination Management companies. Her SOAR activities will include Volunteer Coordination.



Rosalie Harris is a lifelong Chicagoan, a native of the Lakeview community and resident of Lincoln Park who moved to Streeterville in 1983. She is an independent writer and public relations consultant and owner of Rosalie Harris Creative Solutions, a home-based consultancy to business and non-profit organizations. Rosalie began her SOAR career more than five years ago on the program and membership committees and "worked her way up" as annual report writer, editor of *Newsbriefs* and consultant on issues communications. She is a graduate of Antioch College, former president of the Chicago String Ensemble, an arts junkie and proud possessor of Harry Cairry, an adorable Cairn terrier.

Don Powell is returning to the SOAR board after an

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SHAKESPEARE THEATER is Great Success on Navy Pier

The Chicago Shakespeare Theater on Navy Pier has been a great success. The number of subscribers for its opening season increased 120% over the previous season at its earlier location!

The last production of the current season, "All's Well That Ends Well," opens April 30th. And the upcoming second season promises to be equally sensational.

Perhaps the most anticipated production is not part of the regular subscription series. It is British theater director Peter Brooks' production of "Hamlet." It will run for only 18 performances, starting May 9, 2001. Tickets will initially be offered only to the theater's 17,000 subscribers.

The 2000-2001 season will begin on September 17 with "Two Gentlemen from Verona," followed by the Stratford Festival of Canada's production of "The School for Scandal." The final production is "King Lear," directed by the theater's artistic director Barbara Gaines. She won international acclaim when she directed it seven years ago at the theater's Dearborn Street location.

Additionally, Chicago Shakespeare Theater's education program, called Team Shakespeare, will team the skills of teachers with the theater's experience. Next season, more than 60,000 secondary and middle school students and 1,500 teachers will get involved in one of the largest and most respected arts-in-education programs in the U.S. Student matinees for the theater's full-length productions, an abridged

production each year of a curriculum play, free teacher workshops throughout the school year, teacher handbooks, a Teacher Resource Center (scheduled to open in late 2,000) and a statewide tour of an abridged Short Shakespeare! production are among the learning opportunities of Team Shakespeare.

Editorial Aside: The local daily newspapers have been enthusiastic in their reviews and assessment of the theater, and SOAR feels its must also add its praise. For a theater to be so successful in its first year is unusual, and we feel proud and privileged that it is located in Streeterville.

SAVE THE DATE OF MAY 25,
and be sure your kids and grandkids are available, too. SOAR is sponsoring a very special guided tour of the Chicago Children's Museum (at Navy Pier) from 6 to 8PM. Refreshments will be served. This fun and educational event is for SOAR members only. More information later.

Real Estate News

By Betty Eaton

Streeterville continues to be a hub of development activity with cranes working overtime in all four corners of the community. Everything from hotels to condominiums, from office buildings to entertainment venues are under construction. Eight new hotels are in the works, with another under consideration. Two others have already been completed in adjacent River North. New movie complexes with thousands of seats are underway, and our premier institution, Northwestern University, is adding to its campus. The face and character of Streeterville are being altered daily as these new projects are developed, and traffic congestion becomes the norm. The dizzying pace seems unstoppable. Let's look at what's in the works.

At the northwest corner of Streeterville, at Wabash and Chestnut, a luxury 415 room Sofitel Hotel is under construction by a Paris-based hotel chain, Accor S.A. The hotel, with a largely glass facade, will have 30 stories and a small, 41-car garage. It will be a uniquely shaped triangular building with a curved corner entrance. Completion is projected for sometime in 2002.

South of there, on Chicago and Michigan, the new 203-room Park Hyatt is nearing completion. Due to open in May, it will occupy the first 20 floors of the Lucien LaGrange designed 67-story Art Deco building.

At the corner of Superior and Rush, a new 18-story luxury Peninsula Hotel is rising on top of Klutznick's retail complex which houses Tiffany, Banana Republic and Ralph Lauren. The hotel, which has no garage, is slated to have 336 guest rooms and suites with an entrance on Superior St. It is scheduled to open in 2001.

A new Nordstrom Department Store will anchor the North Bridge project at the southwest corner of Streeterville. While the actual building will be at the corner of Rush and Grand, Nordstrom's will have a Michigan Avenue presence through a galleria in the rebuilt 520 N. Michigan Avenue building. North Bridge extends west to State Street and includes two other more modest hotels, much retail, several entertainment venues, garages and some residential.

East of Michigan Avenue, running from Grand Avenue south to the River, two more developments are underway. Grand Pier Center will extend from St. Clair to Columbus along Illinois and Grand. This development will include a Dominick's grocery, a 1200-car garage, a Hilton Suites Hotel, a 16-screen movie theater and a high-rise condominium. The construction currently underway is for the garage and the Dominick's store.

East of Columbus Drive, a multi-phased, mixed use project will take shape over ten years. Called River East, it will include:

- * River View (under construction), three residential buildings on the River
- * River East Center (under construction), a block square structure running from Columbus to McClurg and Illinois to Grand with 21 movie screens, an Embassy

Suites Hotel, a Bally Health Club, a 1200 car garage and a 620-unit condominium tower.

- * River East Plaza (formerly North Pier Terminal) on Ogden Slip (existing).
- * a 50 plus story condominium on the Kraft Building site (projected)
- * two additional high-rise condominiums (projected)
- * a retirement/assisted living high-rise (projected)
- * a small park on the east side of McClurg between Illinois and Grand (projected)

Yet another developer is planning a 1600-room convention hotel also on Illinois, between Park and New Streets. Not yet approved, the Adams Mark Hotel is planned to have 1600 rooms in a 50-story tower. The city and developer are still discussing design issues.

A few short blocks north of this bustling construction, two smaller hotels are planned:

The Fairfield Inn, at 216-218 East Ontario, is a relatively small, 189-room facility with no garage or restaurant. It is currently under construction.

A 258-room Marriott Courtyard Inn, on the south west corner of Ontario and St. Clair, will replace the existing surface parking lot. It will have a 210-car self-park garage with a restaurant on the ground level along Ontario.

Northwestern University will start demolition of Passavant Hospital at Superior and Fairbanks by late summer to make way for its new 15-story Medical Research Building.

And, to close the neighborhood circle, LR Development Company plans to start demolition this spring on the buildings on its Pearson/Lake Shore Drive site. Three new residential buildings are planned. Initial construction will be on the two outer buildings with the center site serving as a staging area during the construction. Occupancy is expected by 2003.

Incredibly, there are even more new projects on the board for Streeterville. I haven't included them because they are either on hold or in early stages of exploration. But developers continue to eye the few remaining vacant or underutilized sites in the neighborhood. It seems that only a change in zoning or a reversal of the economy can stop the building frenzy we're experiencing.

City staff and elected officials tell us that all this activity is healthy and even necessary to sustain the viability and economic base of the area; that living in the heart of a big city means noise, traffic, hustle, bustle and excitement; that residents who want a quiet neighborhood should consider moving elsewhere. While we all bought into this wonderful community partly because of its vitality and excitement, we hope the new developments will ensure those qualities for Streeterville, not contribute to its demise.

Environment Committee keeps busy with Thorium and CAPS !

by Barbara Puechler, Environment Chair

The continuing cooperation between the environment committee and the 18th District CAPS program is resulting in many improvements to the area. The January neighborhood walk by committee members and 18th District police resulted in a new safety guard rail under the Lake Shore Drive bridge at Ogden Slip. A formerly rubble and debris-strewn area is also finally paved for pedestrian safety. Although work is still not complete, it is a welcome start.

Another safety problem had been the nearly invisible north-bound Lake Shore Drive directional sign at Lake Shore Drive and Illinois. Now that the sign has been repositioned, this will no longer be a place "just waiting for an accident." Also, the decaying bus booth at Peshtigo and Grand is finally gone.

Two other projects of the environment committee are also getting the cooperation of the 18th District. After meetings with representatives of the U.S. Dept. of Tourism, the U.S. EPA, Department of Environment, and hotels, illegal tour bus parking and idling are recognized as critical issues in Streeterville. Not only are these large vehicles a congestion issue on our streets, but unmanned/idling vehicles create health hazards. Although plans are not yet finalized, the 18th District is taking a proactive approach toward illegal bus parking.

The environment committee took on a big task organizing a community meeting for Streeterville residents held recently at the Gleacher Center about the radioactive thorium remediation at 316 E. Illinois, known as the Lindsay Light II site. Residents had an

opportunity to hear factual information and to ask questions directly about remediation activity in their neighborhood. Those questions could be addressed by the very people involved in the remediation, namely the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), enabling the community to obtain the most comprehensive responses at the current time.

While not all questions were answered to the satisfaction of residents, some responses may have had to be limited, as there could still be unresolved legal issues and decisions about the Lindsay Light II remediation process.

Unlike other sites where hazardous waste material has been found, development and cleanup will be occurring simultaneously. The spread of airborne dust from contaminated soil is one of the immediate concerns. The U.S. EPA stated at the meeting that the soil will be moistened to contain the dust and radioactive monitors will be placed to detect any airborne dust. Contaminated soil will be removed and placed in special containers which will then be transported to U.S. EPA approved disposal sites.

Ultimately, the goal is to have a speedy, safe cleanup process so that residents and visitors are secure, the expectation being that the site will be monitored and supervised in a manner which is mindful of the health hazards when radioactive thorium remediation is undertaken.

Anyone with questions should contact Derrick Kimbrough, U.S. EPA Community Involvement Co-ordinator at 886-9749.

A GRAND TIME WAS HAD BY ALL AT THE RECENT PARTY AT THE TERRA MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART, AND THE ACCOMPANYING PICTURES PROVE IT. SOAR ENTHUSIASTICALLY THANKS THE MUSEUM FOR PROVIDING ITS MEMBERS WITH SUCH AN ENTERTAINING AND EDUCATIONAL EVENING.



SOAR vice-president Paul Ligon is flanked by Lorraine Kirk and Susan Ross.



Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Gilberti

The enjoyable tours of "Outsider and Folk Art from Chicago Collections" and Terra's Permanent Collection were led by this quartet of museum docents.



Photos by Jeff Brown

Enthusiasm reigns supreme.

Editor's Note: *A Written Potpourri to be Published Now and Again*

We had the privilege of attending two luncheons recently, one sponsored by the Greater North Michigan Avenue Association, and the other by the Streeterville Chamber of Commerce. Both featured speakers from two Streeterville big developments, River East (east of Michigan) and North Bridge (west of Michigan). After hearing their words and seeing their drawings, we are once again convinced that the Streeterville of today bears not the slightest resemblance to the Streeterville we saw when we moved here twelve years ago. We hope these and future developers will remember that we need a goodly amount of green space along with all the new residential buildings!

Those of you who missed SOAR's town hall meeting on traffic on April 12 missed a beauty. A goodsized crowd gathered at Gleacher Center to hear a panel of city officials and to pepper them with questions and, more importantly, suggestions. Panelists may have gotten more than they bargained for and professed to be pleased with the suggestions and try to work on them. Congrats to program chair Alice Jurica for providing a fine evening.

The third floor of the galleria leading into Nordstrom's at 520 N. Michigan Avenue will be totally devoted to children, and the fourth floor will be occupied by eight restaurants...all by well-known restaurateurs. Try as we would, we couldn't extract any more details. But it all sounds promising

The Wyndham-Chicago Hotel planned to celebrate its first birthday on April 7 by planting a garden of flowers in front of the property, followed by consumption of a big birthday cake. The weather didn't cooperate, but the flowers sure are pretty...and the cake was good, too.

Chicago's historic Water Tower is home to CITY 2,000 (an acronym for Chicago in the Year 2,000, an ongoing photo exhibition which will document everyday life in Chicago's 176 neigh-

borhoods. New photos will be exhibited every week. Its first exhibit, in early January, drew 2,500 visitors in three days. The exhibit is free and may be visited every day beginning at 10 AM. The first exhibit featured pictures from a banquet at the Casino Club to a family in the Henry Horner Homes. Eight fulltime photographers and dozens of contributors make up the staff.

Did you know that the Chicago Cultural Center offers Saturday morning neighborhood tours? Coming up in May are Near South Side/Prairie Avenue Historic District (May 6), Roots of Chicago Blues, Gospel and Jazz (May 6), Chinatown/Pilsen (May 13) and West Side (May 20). They last approximately four hours, are filled with interesting stops and offer a unique perspective on Chicago's multicultural communities. Call 742-1190 for more information.

If you can't believe your eyes when you walk past the Museum of Contemporary Arts in July, take another look. A sculptural garden installation by the German artist Tobias Rehberger consists of both a sculpture and a functioning garden which begins on the front plaza, travels up the front steps and continues into the lobby and atrium. When you're looking at it from ground level, it is a dynamically designed vegetable garden. Through the choice of vegetation and placement, however, it looks like a large, abstract painting when viewed from the MCA's front windows looking into the plaza. The Landscape Garden Sculpture will be on display from July 1 until the first frost.

While on the subject of the MCA, It's time to remind you of its Summer Arts Camp Program for children ages 6-13. It meets for four weeks from July 10 through August 4 from 9 AM to noon, and campers may sign up for one or multiple weeks. It offers classes, with an emphasis on fun, in dance, music, theater and visual art. Call 397-4010 for information. A limited number of need-based scholarships is available.

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absence of a few years which was preceded by several terms in the early years of the organization. A principal in the interior architecture firm of Powell-Kleinschmidt, Inc., he takes an active role in the design of virtually every project undertaken by the firm. His firm was named by an association of its peers as one of the top ten firms in the nation for the past 75 years. He received his bachelor of architecture degree from the University of Minnesota and received a Fulbright Travelling Fellowship for study in Europe. He is active in many civic groups and boards and is an enthusiastic supporter of art museums in the Chicago area. He is interested in improving the urban environment and preserving the architectural character and scale of Streeterville.



Victoria Sepin is an association/corporate meeting planner in the banking, financial and real estate fields. Her varied career includes Caribiner International where she was senior project manager, Executive Meetings & Travel Ltd. (director, conference management), Government Finance Officers Ass'n (assistant director, conference planning), Northern Trust Company (manager, corporate communications) and Society of Real Estate Appraisers (manager, meeting planning department). She serves on the boards of Meeting Planning International (where she chairs the strategic planning committee) and Chicago Area Meeting Planning International where she is chair of the downtown breakfast club. She also is active on Lincoln Park Zoo's children's zoo and gardening committees.

Beaucoup and fervent thanks to Dr. Mary Lunz and James Houston of Measurement Research Asso., Inc. who heard our plea for the donation of a new computer to replace the office's ancient, creaking machine. We now have an up-to-date, complete one, much to the joy of SOAR's administrative assistant, Donna Sark.

WELCOME.....

We're pleased to welcome the following residents as new members of SOAR. We're glad to have you!

Ms. Amy Bergholtz
Mr. and Mrs. R.S. Boduch
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Brophy
Ms. Jan Burns
Mr. and Mrs. David Deahl
Mr. and Mrs. John Kern
Mr. John Lafley
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gordon
Ms. Penny Hughes
Mr. Marvin Keeling
Ms. Caralyn Kempa
Mr. Kurtis Kossen/Ms. Kristi Marsilije
Ms. Kathleen Grasser
Ms. Jane Hand
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Marlikas
Mr. and Mrs. Murray Rosenblatt
Mr. and Mrs. Myron Warshauer
Dr. and Mrs. Bernard Wetchler

Northern Trust Financial Center
NWM Hospital Location

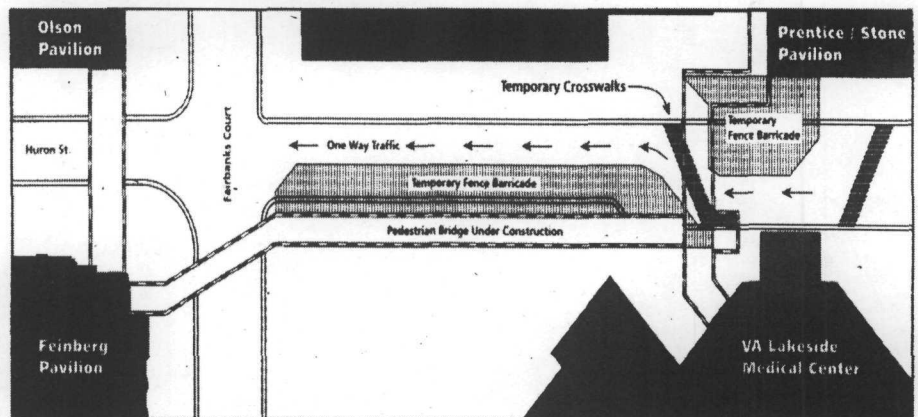
Watch Out For Traffic on Huron;

Hospital Bridge Construction will cause a Little bit of Havoc

Northwestern Memorial Hospital's temporary bridge between the VA Hospital and Feinberg Pavilion is going to cause some serious traffic delays on Huron Street. During phase one, which is now occurring and will continue through May, there will only be one traffic lane open between Prentice/Stone Pavilion and Fairbanks Court. All vehicular traffic will be eliminated between McClurg and Fairbanks during phase two, and phase three will be a repeat of phase one with only one lane open. The bridge will be completed in November.

The bridge will allow the continued transport of patients between Prentice/Stone, VA Lakeside Memorial Center, the Rehabilitation Institute and Feinberg Pavilion, replacing the use of existing bridges through Passavant. With the impending demolition of Passavant, a new route has been planned: a small bridge

will connect Prentice and the VA-Lakeside bridge, and another will extend from there to the northeast corner of Feinberg Pavilion.



SOAR
Streeterville Organization
of Active Residents
215 East Chicago Avenue, Suite 2407
Chicago, Illinois 60611



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